

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

- An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with applicant's representative, HOWARD L. SPEIGHT, on 05/30/08.

- In the CLAIM APPENDIX of the Appeal Brief filed on 03/28/2008, please:
AMEND the claims as in the following manners:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for redistributing data in a relational data base management system, comprising:

allocating a buffer associated with ~~a~~ one or more transmitting processing ~~module~~ modules, the one or more transmitting processing ~~module~~ modules having access to a program, the program capable of managing a redistribution of one or more rows associated with one or more database tables;

if the allocated buffer is larger than the one or more rows:

storing the one or more rows ~~of a database table~~ in the allocated buffer;

communicating a message to one or more destination processing modules, the message comprising at least some of the one or more rows stored in the allocated buffer;

otherwise:

executing a many-rows method to redistribute the one or more rows, wherein the many-rows method comprises:

communicating from the one or more transmitting processing modules a first signal to one or more processing modules within a relational database system, the first signal operable to initiate a row receiver task on each of the one or more processing modules;

communicating from the one or more processing modules a ready-to-receive signal to the one or more transmitting processing modules;

communicating from the one or more transmitting processing modules a second signal comprising the one or more rows;

after communication of the last row of the one or more rows, communicating from the one or more transmitting processing modules an end-of-data signal to each of the one or more processing modules.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the message comprises all of the one or more rows stored in the allocated buffer.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the one or more transmitting processing ~~module~~ modules comprises one of ~~a plurality of the one or more~~ processing modules ~~associated with a relational database system.~~

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the message is communicated to each of a plurality of destination processing elements.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the allocated buffer is capable of storing no more than ten (10) rows.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising invoking the program on a single transmitting processing module.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising receiving at each of a plurality of destination processing elements a substantially similar set of the one or more rows stored in the allocated buffer.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising determining a number of rows to store in the allocated buffer.

10-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium containing computer-executable code for instructing a computer to:

allocate a buffer associated with ~~a one or more~~ transmitting processing ~~module~~ modules, the ~~one or more~~ transmitting processing ~~module~~ modules having access to a program, the program capable of managing a redistribution of one or more rows associated with one or more database tables;

if the allocated buffer is larger than the one or more rows:

store ~~the~~ one or more rows ~~associated with a database table~~ in the allocated buffer;

communicate a message to one or more destination processing modules, the message comprising at least some of the one or more rows stored in the allocated buffer;

otherwise:

execute a many-rows method to redistribute the one or more rows, wherein the many-rows method comprises:

communicating from the one or more transmitting processing modules a first signal to one or more processing modules within a relational database system, the first signal operable to initiate a row receiver task on each of the one or more processing modules;

communicating from the one or more processing modules a ready-to-receive signal to the one or more transmitting processing modules;

communicating from the one or more transmitting processing modules a second signal comprising the one or more rows;

after communication of the last row of the one or more rows, communicating from the one or more transmitting processing modules an end-of-data signal to each of the one or more processing modules.

19. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 18, wherein the ~~one or more~~ transmitting processing ~~module~~ modules comprises one of ~~a plurality of the one or more~~ processing modules ~~associated with a relational database system.~~

20. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 18, wherein the message is communicated to each of a plurality of destination processing elements.

21. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 18, wherein the allocated buffer is capable of storing no more than ten (10) rows.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 18, further comprising invoking the program on a single transmitting processing module.

24. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 18, further comprising determining a number of rows to store in the allocated buffer.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) A database management system, comprising:

a massively parallel processing system comprising:

one or more nodes;

a plurality of processors, each of the one or more nodes providing access to one or more processors; and

a plurality of virtual processes, each of the one or more processors providing access to ~~one or more~~ at least one of the plurality of virtual processes;

a set of one or more database tables residing on the one or more nodes; and

one or more of the plurality of virtual processes that:

allocate a buffer associated with ~~a one or more~~ transmitting processing module modules, the one or more transmitting processing ~~module~~ modules having access to a program, the program capable of managing a redistribution of one or more rows associated with one or more database tables;

if the allocated buffer is larger than the one or more rows:

store the one or more rows ~~associated with a database table~~ in the allocated buffer;

communicate a message to one or more destination processing modules, the

message comprising at least some of the one or more rows stored in the allocated buffer;

otherwise:

execute a many-rows method to redistribute the one or more rows, wherein the many-rows method comprises:

communicating from the one or more transmitting processing modules a first signal to one or more processing modules within a relational database system, the first signal operable to initiate a row receiver task on each of the one or more processing modules;

communicating from the one or more processing modules a ready-to-receive signal to the one or more transmitting processing modules;

communicating from the one or more transmitting processing modules a second signal comprising the one or more rows;

after communication of the last row of the one or more rows, communicating from the one or more transmitting processing modules an end-of-data signal to each of the one or more processing modules.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Prior arts of record do not render obvious, nor anticipate the combination of claimed elements including the technique of *communicating from the one or more transmitting processing modules a first signal to one or more processing modules within a relational database system, the first signal operable to initiate a row receiver task on each of the one or more processing modules; communicating from the one or more processing modules a ready-to-receive signal to the one or more transmitting processing modules; communicating from the one or more transmitting processing modules a second signal comprising the one or more rows; after communication of the last row of the one or more rows, communicating from the one or more transmitting processing modules an end-of-data signal to each of the one or more processing modules* as recited in claims 1, 18 and 26. Thus, claims 1, 18 and 26 are allowed. Dependent claims 2-5, 7-9, 19-21, 23 and 24 are allowed at least by virtue of their dependencies from claims 1 and 18.

.Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUNG Q. PHAM whose telephone number is 571-272-4040. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, TIM T. VO can be reached on 571-272-3642. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/HUNG Q PHAM/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2168

May 31, 2008